

NOTES AND NEWS

ASPLENIUM VIRIDE IN CALIFORNIA. While rock climbing in the Sierra Buttes, Sierra County, California, on July 26, 1953, I noticed in the crevices of a vertical cliff below which we were traversing a little fern which looked familiar to me from my collecting trips in northern New England. On closer inspection it proved to be without doubt the green spleenwort, *Asplenium viride* Huds. The plants were lodged deep in the crevices of the rock, so that they could not have been removed without the aid of a long knife, and at the beginning of a new rock climbing route of unknown difficulty one is not inclined to linger over plant collecting. I therefore removed a few fronds and placed them in my wallet. Upon returning to camp, I was surprised to find that the species is not listed at all in Jepson's manual. The following week, I consulted Dr. E. B. Copeland at the University of California Herbarium, who kindly verified the identification for me, and determined that no specimens of *A. viride* from California exist, and no published records of its occurrence in our state could be found.

Asplenium viride is a widespread holarctic fern, which on the Pacific Coast is frequent on moist, shady cliffs at relatively high altitudes as far south as Washington. It is listed by M. E. Peck in his flora of Oregon, although the absence of specimens from that state in the University of California Herbarium indicates that it is rare there. In the Rocky Mountain region, *A. viride* extends southward to Wyoming and northern Utah, and it has been found by Holmgren in the Ruby Mountains of northeastern Nevada. The Sierra Buttes locality is not only a new record for California, but also marks the southernmost outpost of this fern in North America. A specimen (Stebbins 5219) has been deposited in the Herbarium of the University of California. G. LEDYARD STEBBINS, JR.

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A series of excellent biographical sketches of early California botanists, authored by Edmund C. Jaeger, is appearing in "Calico Print," a bi-monthly magazine devoted to "tales and trails of the desert West" and edited by Harold and Lucile Weight at Twenty-nine Palms, California. An account of Marcus E. Jones was included in the October-November 1952 issue and of Katherine Brandegee in the March 1953 number.